

**CLAIMS**

1. A radial or crossflow media filter comprising a housing containing filter media, a contaminated flow inlet and a discharge outlet, the contaminated flow inlet comprising a manifold situated within the housing, the manifold having a flow outlet which directs flow laterally, away from the discharge outlet.  
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2. A filter as claimed in claim 1 in which the flow outlet is directed towards a sidewall of the housing.  
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3. A filter as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the manifold is provided with a plurality of flow outlets.
4. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the housing comprises a vessel or tank.  
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5. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the flow inlet comprises a substantially vertically aligned elongate manifold with a plurality of flow distribution outlets disposed along its length.  
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6. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a discharge chamber which is situated within the housing, is upstream of the discharge outlet and contains a second filter media which is of a larger average particle size than the rest of the filter media in the housing.  
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7. A filter as claimed in claim 6 in which the discharge chamber surrounds the discharge outlet.
8. A filter as claimed in claim 6 or 7 in which the discharge chamber is formed from a filter screen.  
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9. A filter as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8 in which the filter screen tapers inwardly towards the bottom of the housing.
10. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which a fluidising unit is provided in the base of the housing to fluidise the filter media and contaminants.  
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11. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which a second fluidising unit is provided in the discharge chamber to fluidise the filter media and contaminants in the discharge chamber.
- 5 12. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a tubular ultrasonic unit.
13. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a heating unit.
- 10 14. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising means for applying AC or DC current and/or magnetic force to the filter media and/or contaminants present in the filter media and/or fluid being filtered.
- 15 15. A filter substantially as described herein with reference to and as shown in figures 2 and 3, figure 4, figure 5, figure 6 or figure 7 of the accompanying drawings.